

SPECIAL MEETING
BOROUGH COUNCIL
BOROUGH OF RUMSON
September 29, 2009

A regular meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Rumson was held in the Charles S. Callman Courtroom of the Memorial Borough Hall on September 29, 2009 and was called to order by Mayor John E. Ekdahl at 4:37 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Mayor Ekdahl, Councilwoman DeVoe, Councilmen Broderick, Day, Hemphill, Rubin and Shanley.

Absent: None.

Thomas S. Rogers, Municipal Clerk/Administrator, was present.

Martin M. Barger, Borough Attorney, was present.

David Marks of T & M Associates was not present.

Police Chief Richard E. Tobias was present.

The Mayor declared a quorum present and announced that the notice requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act had been met by the posting and mailing of a notice forwarded at least 48 hours in advance thereof to the *Asbury Park Press* and the *Two River Times*.

On motion by Councilwoman DeVoe, seconded by Councilman Rubin, the minutes of the previous meeting were approved as written, copies having been forwarded to all Council members. All in favor.

COMMUNICATIONS:

None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

CONSENT AGENDA:

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE PROMOTION OF SENIOR PATROLMAN/
DETECTIVE RONALD J. VILARDI, JR. TO THE RANK OF POLICE SERGEANT:**

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Borough of Rumson, based on the recommendation of the Borough Council Police Committee, through its Police Department has the need for a Police Sergeant; and

WHEREAS, Senior Patrolman/Detective Ronald J. Vilardi, Jr. has successfully passed the Sergeant's promotion process adopted by the Borough of Rumson; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council Police Committee has recommended Senior Patrolman/Detective Ronald J. Vilardi, Jr. for the position of Police Sergeant; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council agrees with the Police Committee's recommendation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Rumson that Senior Patrolman/Detective Ronald J. Vilardi, Jr. be promoted to the rank of Police Sergeant effective October 1, 2009 at an annual base salary of \$88,675.00 as specified in the current P.B.A. contract.

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE PROMOTION OF SENIOR PATROLMAN CHRISTOPHER J. YORK TO THE RANK OF POLICE SERGEANT:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Borough of Rumson, based on the recommendation of the Borough Council Police Committee, through its Police Department has the need for a Police Sergeant; and

WHEREAS, Senior Patrolman Christopher J. York has successfully passed the Sergeant's promotion process adopted by the Borough of Rumson; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council Police Committee has recommended Senior Patrolman Christopher J. York for the position of Police Sergeant; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council agrees with the Police Committee's recommendation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Rumson that Senior Patrolman Christopher J. York be promoted to the rank of Police Sergeant effective October 1, 2009 at an annual base salary of \$88,675.00 as specified in the current P.B.A. contract.

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE PROMOTION OF PATROLMAN DAMIEN F. BRENNAN TO THE RANK OF POLICE SERGEANT:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Borough of Rumson, based on the recommendation of the Borough Council Police Committee, through its Police Department has the need for a Police Sergeant; and

WHEREAS, Patrolman Damien F. Brennan has successfully passed the Sergeant's promotion process adopted by the Borough of Rumson; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council Police Committee has recommended Patrolman Damien F. Brennan for the position of Police Sergeant; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council agrees with the Police Committee's recommendation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Rumson that Patrolman Damien F. Brennan be promoted to the rank of Police Sergeant effective October 1, 2009 at an annual base salary of \$88,675.00 as specified in the current P.B.A. contract.

The three above Resolutions on the Consent Agenda were moved by Councilman Rubin, seconded by Councilman Broderick, and were carried on the following roll call vote:

In the affirmative: Broderick, Day, DeVoe, Hemphill, Rubin and Shanley.

In the negative: None.

Absent: None.

Mayor Ekdahl advised that retired Mayor Charles S. Callman, retired Police Chief Edward Rumolo, and Zoning Board of Adjustment Chairman John J. Conklin, III were in attendance and stated that it was an exciting day for Rumson. He introduced Police Chief Richard E. Tobias and asked that he come forward to make the presentations to the three new Police Sergeants.

Chief Tobias welcomed those in attendance and introduced Police Lt. John Sorrentino, soon to be Police Chief in Sea Bright; Police Capt. Doug Van Note of Marlboro Township; Rumson

resident Tim Boyle of the New York City Fire Department; Police Lt. Joe McGovern of Fair Haven; and Retired Rumson Police Chief Ed Rumolo.

Chief Tobias recognized and thanked all the members of his Department for the excellent job they do keeping the residents, children and business owners safe. He explained that the decision to increase the number of Sergeants in the Rumson Police Department was made in January of this year which began the process in selecting the new Sergeants. The applicants were required to take a difficult written test designed specifically for the Borough of Rumson, which was administered by the New Jersey State Chief's Association. They were also interviewed by both an outside entity (Dr. Joseph A. Devine, a former Chief and Mr. Paul Kalleberg, a former Deputy Chief) and the Borough Council Police Committee—Police Commissioner Mayor John Ekdahl, Council President Shaun Broderick and Councilman Mark Rubin.

Chief Tobias stated that the Sergeant's promotional process was a search for excellence and that three deserving officers had been chosen and introduced Detective Ronald J. Vilardi, Jr., Senior Patrolman Christopher J. York, and Ptl. Damien F. Brennan, giving a brief history of their time with the Department, background and qualifications.

Ronald J. Vilardi, Jr.

Rumson native and graduate of Rumson-Fair Haven Regional High School
Life Member of Rumson's Oceanic Hook & Ladder Company No. 1—Fire Chief in 1995
Rumson Police Patrolman hired in August of 1988
Skillfully served as Detective since 2007—head of our Investigations Division

- investigating 10 to 20 new cases monthly
- logging, tracking, storing and arranging the lab testing of evidence

Member of the Monmouth County Detectives Association
D.A.R.E officer for the Department
Associates Degree in Criminal Justice
Associates Degree in the Social Sciences
Working toward a Bachelor of Science Degree from New Jersey – City University

- expected graduation date in May of 2011

Ron and his wife, Laurette, are raising four children, Ron, Tim, Dan and Mary, in Little Silver.

Christopher J. York

Rumson native and graduate of Rumson-Fair Haven Regional High School
Fourteen years ago served in the communities of Rumson, Fair Haven and Deal and as a 911 operator at Monmouth County Radio Room
Rumson Police

- Dispatcher – part-time July 1997 and full-time January 1999
- Class I Special Police Officer
- Class II Special Police Officer
- Police Patrolman hired in December 2000

Wide range of work and volunteer experiences

- in the process of completing his Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice
- Certified EMT
- member and Past-President of Rumson EMS
- Rumson's Deputy OEM Coordinator
- member of the Rumson Planning Board
- current Vice President of the Monmouth County Bias Crime and Gang Officer's Association

Certified by the New Jersey Police Training Commission and is currently a Monmouth County Police Academy Instructor where he teaches:

- Community Policing
- Police Communications
- Police Emergency Vehicle Operations

Chris currently maintains his residence here in Rumson with his wife, Deidre, and their daughter, Madison.

Damien F. Brennan

Born and raised in Ireland and moved to New York City
Began his police career with the NYPD as a New York City Police Officer in an Anti-Crime

Specialty Unit in the Bronx

- this unit targeted high crime areas and high priority crimes such as gun running and auto thefts

Rumson Patrolman hired in August 2006

Associates Degree in Criminal Justice

Graduated from both the New York City Police Academy and Cape May County Police Academy

In full charge of alarms and refined procedures of issuing warnings and summonses for repeat false alarm activations

Damien now lives in Howell with his wife, Tracy, and daughters, Cassidy and Kennedy.

Chief Tobias advised that the Rumson Police Department was in the process of reorganizing and the three new Police Sergeants would be taking on new assignments and added responsibilities.

Chief Tobias asked the three officers to step forward, invited their wives to come up for the swearing in of Sergeants Vilardi, York and Brennan and turned the meeting over to Mayor Ekdahl.

Mayor Ekdahl requested that the wives hold the Bibles and he administered the oaths of office. The Mayor congratulated the Borough's newest Sergeants as Chief Tobias presented each with their new badge.

Mayor Ekdahl stated that earlier he had neglected to recognize retired Borough Clerk/Administrator Gary Sammon, who was filming the ceremony, as he had since the invention of the camera. He added that Gary had a library of recording of all the events.

The Mayor thanked everyone for attending and wished Sgt. Vilardi, Sgt. York and Sgt. Brennan all the best.

COMMENTS FROM THE COUNCIL:

The Mayor afforded the members of the Council an opportunity to be heard at this time and Councilwoman DeVoe responded.

Councilwoman DeVoe congratulated Sergeants Vilardi, York and Brennan on their much deserved promotions to Sergeant and stated that it was a long time coming but worth the wait. She stated that she wished to publicly acknowledge the hard work, diligence and dedication of the three gentlemen as Police Officers and thanked them for protecting the residents of Rumson. Councilwoman DeVoe stated that it was her great pleasure to extend her heartfelt support and congratulations.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

The Mayor afforded the public an opportunity to be heard at this time and no one responded.

ADJOURNMENT:

On motion by Councilwoman DeVoe, seconded by Councilman Rubin, the meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas S. Rogers, R.M.C.
Municipal Clerk/Administrator